1	2	3	4	5
		Chombal	37.70	Project approved under the CSS and Rs. 10 lakhs has already been provided.
7.	Maharashtra	Sassoon Dock — FH and new Ferry Wharf FH		The Port Trust and CICEF, Bangalore are to finalize the proposal.
8.	West Bengal	Shankarpur Stage-I (Digha)	40.00	Project approved under the CSS and Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided to the State Government.
		Frasergunj	40.00	**-do-**

ASIDE—Assistance to State for Infrastucture Development for Export and Allied Activities.

CSS—Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Declining wheat production in Punjab

†1181. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's largest wheat producing State Punjab has registered a decline in wheat production during the last few years;

(b) if so, per hectare wheat production from the years 1999-2000 to 2004-05; and

(c) the reasons for decline in production rate and how it has affected profit-margins of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Uttar Pradesh is the largest wheat producing state in India. In the case of Punjab the production of wheat reached 159.10 lakh tonnes in 1999-2000 and then started declining till

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2002-03. Production of wheat in Punjab during 1999-2000 to 2004-05 is shown below:

Production of wheat in Punjab

Year	Production (lakh tonnes)
1999-2000	159.10
2000-01	155.51
2001-02 ,	154.99
2002-03	141.75
2003-04	144.89
2004-05	146.98

(b) The per-hectare wheat production (Productivity) is given as under:

Year	Per hectare of wheat (in kg.)
1999-2000	4696
2000-01	4563
2001-02	4532
2002-03	4200
2003-04	4207
2004-05	4221

(c) The main reason for declining production rate is the predominant cultivation of wheat variety PBW 343 for the last ten years. Further higher temperature (Maximum/Minimum) than normal during February/March has also affected the production in last few years. Due to stagnation in productivity and increasing cost of inputs namely machines, human labour, diesel etc. the profit margin of farmers is on the decline.

Prices of pulses

1182. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the abnormal increase in the prices of pulses, particularly at the end of 2005;